



Lesson 17

Title: Christ is Superior to Moses (Part 3)

Scripture: Hebrews 3:7-12 (See Psalm 95:7-11)

V7. THEREFORE.... we must pause and consider all that has been said from verses 1-6 and as a result of this, this is how we should live.

What has been said in the previous verses:

- We are Holy Brethren.
- We share/partake in a Heavenly Calling.
- Jesus is the Apostle and High Priest of our confession.
- Jesus has more glory than Moses: Jesus is FAITHFUL, Jesus is a Son; Moses is a servant; Moses is the shadow while Jesus is the Substance.
- God is the Builder of ALL things - Christ is the Head of the church.
- We belong to Christ if we hold fast our confidence and rejoicing in our hope.

The Holy Spirit (not David) is the Author of Psalms 95 from which Hebrews 3:7-11 is quoted - (2 Timothy 3:16)

V7: Today (now, at present) if you hear His voice...the emphasis is on hearing and obeying God's warnings, commandments, admonitions, and convictions today while you have life, not tomorrow - for we are not promised tomorrow - (see John 10:27, James 4:13-15)

V8: Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion - take heed not to turn a deaf ear to the commandments of God, especially during your moments of trial (see **Exodus 17:1-7**, **1 Corinthians 10:1-12**, 2 Chronicles 30:8, Job 9:4, Matthew 13:15, Romans 2:5-6, **1 Peter 1:6-7**)

"To provoke God, when he is trying us, and letting us see that we entirely depend and live immediately upon him, is a provocation with a witness." - Matthew Henry

- The heart is ascribed to reasonable creatures, to signify sometimes the whole soul, and sometimes the several faculties appertaining to the soul.

How the Heart is used in the Bible:

- It is frequently put for the whole soul (1 Samuel 12:20)
- For that principal part of the soul which is called the mind or understanding (Ephesians 4:18, Romans 1:21)
- The Will (Deuteronomy 11:13)
- The Memory (Psalm 119:11)
- The Conscience (1 Samuel 24:5, 2 Samuel 24:5)
- The Affections (Matthew 22:37)

V9: Do not put God to test/Do not tempt God- We test God by desiring our own way instead of submitting to His Will, we test God by not trusting Him, we test God by our ingratitude (Numbers 14:11;22-23, Deuteronomy 9:22-24)

"Men distrustfully tempt God when in distress they imagine that God cannot or will not afford sufficient succour (help or assistance, especially in time of difficulty)" - A.W Pink

How Did the Israelites sin against God in the Wilderness (1 Corinthians 10:6-10)

- Indulging in Idolatry
- Indulging in sexual immorality
- Putting Christ to the test (Matthew 4:5-7, Deuteronomy 6:16)
- Grumbling/Murmuring against God

They saw God's work for forty years in the Wilderness: God kept His covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, in spite of the people's unfaithfulness and rebellion. (Deuteronomy 8:1-4) God keeps HIS COVENANT. This should cause us to obey and love Him more!

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"A further aggravation of Israel's sin is that they saw God's wondrous works for "forty years." God continued His wonders all that time: despite their unbelief and murmuring the manna was sent daily till the Jordan was crossed! Man's incredulity (disbelief, doubt, scepticism) cannot hinder the workings of God's power. **O the marvelous patience of God! May the realization of it melt and move our hearts to repentance and obedience.**" - A.W Pink

- If this was written for our instruction, have we learnt?
- What should be our attitude in our time of trials and difficulties or when things are not going 'our way'? (Proverbs 3:5-6, 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18, Philipians 4:6-7)

V10: - Those who test God provoke Him
- Those who test God have gone astray in their heart
- Those who test God do not know the ways of God

V.11: Those who test God provoke His wrath and do not enter His rest - The Israelites who tested God in the wilderness did not enter the promised land (Canaan was the physical rest from their wilderness journey). Likewise, if we test God by disobeying Him, we will not enter the spiritual rest of the Lord. Rest signifies a position of comfort and relief after tedious work or labour (Matthew 11:28-29, Hebrews 4:1-3, 9-11, Revelation 14:13, Matthew 25:21-23)

V.12 - WARNING! - Take care/Take heed/Beware/ Pay careful attention, brethren - consider what happened to those who disobeyed God and rebelled against Him and learn! (1 Corinthians 10:11-12).

V.12 - An evil, unbelieving heart is a rebellious heart. A heart not subject to the leadership and authority of Christ. A heart of disobedience. (Proverbs 4:23, Matthew 15:8, Matthew 13:15, Mark 7:21-23, Hebrews 2:1-3). Keep your heart with all diligence from the worldly entanglements by praying daily for Grace and abiding in God's Word.

